Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00229 181623Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07

OFA-01 DLOS-04 SAJ-01 SAL-01 PRS-01 (ISO) W

----- 010561

O 181520Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6048

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

CNO

SECDEF

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO IMMEDIATE 1348

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0229

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE: ALLEGED NEW RAMMING

1. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED): ACCORDING TO LOCAL NOON RADIO COAST GUARD REPORTED THAT BRITISH FRIGATE DELIBERATELY COLLIDED WITH ICELANDIC CUTTER THOR THIS MORNING. ACCORDING TO THE RADIO, THE FRIGATE HAD BEEN "SHADOWING" THOR, WHICH WAS CRUISING SOME SIX MILES FROM NEAREST UK TRAWLERS. BRITISH VESSEL THEN CUT IN FRONT OF THOR, CAUSING COLLISION DESPITE THOR'S EVASIVE ACTION. BOTH SHIPS WERE DENTED, ACCORDING TO COAST GUARD.

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PAGE 02 REYKJA 00229 181623Z

2. EARLIER IN DAY, DIFFERENT ICELANDIC COAST GUARD

VESSEL HAD REPORTED RIPPING NETS OF ONE BRITISH TRAWLER AND CUTTING TRAWL WIRES OF ANOTHER 46 MILES FROM SHORE. (END UNCLASSIFIED).

3. COMMENT: (BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE):

MFA SOURCE TOLD US THT IN FACT THE THOR COLLIDED INTO THE FRIGATE AND TECHNICALLY INCIDENT COULD NOT BE CALLED A RAMMING BY THE UK. BUT HE ADDED "IT SHOWS HOW CLEVER THE BRITISH ARE; THEY CAUSED THE THOR TO COLLIDE WITH FRIGATE SO THAT THEY CAN CLAIM ICELANDIC GUNBOAT RAMMED BRITISH FRIGATE." (END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE).

IRVING

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FISHING DISPUTES

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TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK To: STATE

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